



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Man Sentenced to Prison for Pico Rivera Shooting

A 22-year-old man was sentenced yesterday to 114 years to life in state prison for a fatal shooting at a Pico Rivera nightclub, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sebastian Zazueta (dob 7/5/92) of Oxnard was convicted by a jury on Jan. 23 of five felonies: one count of first-degree murder and four counts of willful, deliberate and premeditated attempted murder in case VA131976. Jurors also found true gun allegations.

Deputy District Attorney Brandon K. Wong, who prosecuted the case, said on Sept. 22, 2013, Zazueta and several of his friends went to a Pico Rivera night club to watch a singer perform.

While there, Zazueta and his friends got into an argument with security guards, the prosecutor said. As a result, the group was kicked out of the club. However they bribed another doorman and were let back in, the prosecutor added.

As the club began to close and patrons were directed to leave the club, Zazueta wanted to re-enter to use the restroom, the prosecutor said.

The security guard refused Zazueta reentrance, at which point the defendant went to his car and retrieved a gun, the prosecutor said.

Zazueta returned to the security guard, who was located near the valet, and shot at the club employees, the prosecutor said.

One of the valet's, Melvin Cortez, 37, was shot in the chest and died several hours later at the hospital. The security guard was shot several times, but survived his injuries.

Soon after the incident, authorities located Zazueta and arrested him.

The case was investigated by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

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## **About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.